



## **SPECIAL EDUCATOR- MILD MODERATE MIDDLE AND SECONDARY LEVEL**

The Special Educator-Middle and Secondary Level certificate is valid for service in the public schools of Rhode Island as a teacher of students with mild/moderate disabilities ages 14-21 or as a teacher of students with mild/moderate disabilities who are in any class grades 7 through 12. This certificate is also valid for service as a diagnostic prescriptive teacher (DPT) for this population.

### **I. Certificate of Eligibility for Employment (CEE) – valid for three (3) years.**

The initial certificate in Rhode Island for all areas of certification is a CEE. The CEE is used to seek regular employment in the public schools of Rhode Island for the field identified on the CEE. The CEE is also valid for service as a substitute teacher. If regular employment is not secured in the three (3) year period, the CEE can be renewed every three (3) years until regular employment is secured. To be issued a CEE in middle and secondary level special education an individual needs to satisfy all of the following:

- A. Bachelor's Degree from an accredited or an approved institution of higher education as defined in these regulations
- B. Eligibility for a Rhode Island Elementary or Secondary Teacher's certificate.
- C. Graduate of an approved program for the preparation of middle/secondary special education school teachers within the previous five (5) years from the date of application. Applicants who have not completed an approved program can be certified by transcript analysis by presenting evidence of six (6) semester hours of student teaching in the middle/secondary special education grades and not less than twenty-four semester hours of course work to include work in each of the following areas: Introduction to Education of Exceptional Students; Characteristics of Students with Special Needs; Behavior Management; Assessment of students who have mild/moderate disabilities; Curriculum and Methodologies for students who have mild/moderate disabilities at the middle and secondary level; Language and Speech Development; Vocational Programming; Collaboration, Home/School/Community; and Teaching of Reading. The student teaching requirement may be waived for an applicant who has had two or more documented years of successful teaching experience in an approved special educator-middle/secondary setting. Certified teachers who have had two or more years of teaching experience and who seek Special Educator-Middle/Secondary Level certification may fulfill the student teaching requirement by completing a one-year supervised internship at the special educator-middle/secondary level. After completing the necessary course work for the Special Educator-Middle/Secondary Level certificate, and arranging through the local community for a one-year internship, the Superintendent of Schools may request the issuance of a one-year professional certificate. The Department of Education must approve the internship in advance and the supervisor must have at least 3 years of teaching experience. Upon successful completion of the internship, the individual will be issued a one year professional transitional certificate.
- D. Applicants who have not previously been certified in the State of Rhode Island must achieve a score of at least 167 on the Principles of Learning and Teaching Test, 7-12 prior to being certified.

### **II. Professional Transitional Certificate - valid for one (1) years**

- A. The professional transitional certificate is issued to individuals who secure regular employment in the public schools of Rhode Island. Upon securing regular employment in Rhode Island, the CEE is used to request a one (1) year professional transitional certificate. When applying for a one (1) year professional transitional certificate the applicant must submit the CEE along with documentation from the employing authority that regular employment has been secured in the certification area of the CEE.
- B. The one year professional transitional certificate may be renewed -with the submission of a completed application and payment of the renewal fee.

Applicable to certificates expiring after August 31, 2010.